

Amendment to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A mobile telephone for the universal radio mobile telecommunications system comprising: a processor, a transmitter/receiver, and an antenna, arranged, during call set-up, to transmit an access packet to a base station, said packet comprising a preamble including one of a plurality of available preamble signatures previously obtained from the base station and stored by the mobile, ~~characterised~~ characterized in that the processor is arranged, when the mobile is in an active mode (4) to monitor (2) the acquisition indication channel of the system; to store (3) for the duration of the active mode the usage by other mobile telephones of each available preamble signature; and to select (6 ~~or 9~~) when required a signature the recorded usage of which is unlikely to cause ~~collision~~ collisions.

2. (Currently Amended) A mobile telephone according to Claim 1 in which, for selection of a preamble signature for the determination of the primary node of the channelisation codes used by a message part of an access burst from the mobile, the mobile telephone selects (6) a signature indicated in its store as being unused by [another] other mobiles. (2)

3. (Currently Amended) A mobile telephone according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 in which, for reselection of a preamble signature, the mobile telephone selects (9) a signature indicated in its store as being least used by other mobile telephones.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of operation, in a radio mobile telecommunications system comprising: a plurality of mobile telephones (12, 14, 16) and a base transceiver station (18) providing an acquisition indication channel, in which

each mobile telephone obtains from the base station a plurality of available preamble signatures and stores said signatures;

during call set-up, a mobile transmits an access packet to the base station including one of said signatures,

~~characterised~~ characterized in that: [-]

each active mobile monitors (2) the acquisition indication channel for usage by other mobile telephones as available preamble signatures, and stores (3) said usage; and

each mobile selects when required a signature the recorded usage of which is unlikely to cause collisions.